

Honorable Colleen Kollar-Kotelly
U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
C/o Renata B. Hesse
Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
601 D Street NW
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: U.S. v Microsoft

Dear Judge Kollar-Kotelly,

At a time when innovation in the computer technology industry should be booming the decision with regard to U.S. v Microsoft certainly makes it very difficult for companies to find the investment dollars to develop software. Limiting the ability of companies competing, the settlement provides loopholes which will probably keep this issue in litigation for years.

Microsoft's monopoly has grown stronger. Its Windows operating system and Office Suite have higher than 90% usage. It is clear that operating systems which may have posed a threat and others that might have competed are no longer a concern.

If competition is precluded it is very unlikely venture capital will be available. Investors historically will avoid the risk involved when potential future development is impeded by a monopoly. Consumers are affected as well because they will not find affordable products in the marketplace. The already sluggish job market and economy certainly does not reflect the potential in the industry if a monopoly did not exist.

It is clear that Microsoft hopes to expand to web services, financial, cable and the like, perhaps even the internet. Without venture capital companies will be unable to creatively address emerging markets. At a time when government on all levels faces serious challenges involving security and privacy issues they will be limited in the software they can use if it is not compatible with Windows.

There is nothing in the settlement which will hinder Microsoft. It will be business as usual. The settlement requires Microsoft to share technological information unless Microsoft determines that sharing the information might harm its security or software. In addition Microsoft, due to its monopoly and dominant market share, dictates the technologies, which will be compatible with Windows.

Ten Liberty Square Boston, MA 02109 P: 617 482 0042 F: 617 357 6911 gerl⊘denterleinworldwide.com One of the three person technical committee will be selected by Microsoft. The Department of Justice will choose a second member and they must agree on the third member. There is no question that companies will be less inclined to take on a monopoly when their future business, if the challenge fails, may well depend on that company. Microsoft will continue to be able to charge whatever it wants for its products, prices will skyrocket.

The technical committee must identify violations of the agreement. No findings may be admitted into court in enforcement proceedings and compliance is only for five years. This seems a short time for such a flagrant violation of antitrust law.

After all the years examining this important issue it would seem a better solution could be found. I appreciate your interest. If there is any additional information with which I may be of assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Geri Denterlein President

CC: Honorable Tom Reilly, Attorney General